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Message Text

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43
ACTION EA-09

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 EB-07 L-03 SS-15 INR-07 SSO-00 INRE-00

AGR-05 CIAE-00 COME-00 LAB-04 NSAE-00 SP-02 STR-04

TRSE-00 CIEP-01 FRB-03 OMB-01 ITC-01 EAE-00 /063 W
---------- 061378
O 090835Z AUG 76
FM AMEMBASSY TAIPEI
TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 0643

C O N F I D E N T I A L TAIPEI 5382

C O R R E C T E D C O P Y (STADIS CAPTION DELETED)

E.O. 11652: GDS
TAGS: ETRD, TW, US
SUBJ: SECTION 301 PETITION FILED BY CHARLES REHFELDT, LAI FU TRADING CO., LTD.

REF: (A) STATE 195887, (B) TAIPEI 5358

1. ECONCOUN REVIEWED SUBJECT OF REFTELS WITH MINISTER OF FINANCE WALTER FEI MORNING OF AUGUST 9. AS REQUESTED, IT WAS EMPHASIZED TO MINISTER THAT USG MAY BE FORCED TO TAKE RETALIATORY ACTION UNDER SECTION 301 OF TRADE ACT UNLESS GROC TAKES PROMPT AND POSITIVE ACTIONS TO ROLLBACK TARIFF RATES ON TELEVISION RECEIVERS AND STANDS AND APPLIANCES AND REDUCE RATE ON SYNTHETIC FIBER CARPETS.

2. MINISTER COMMENTED THAT HE ASKED WANG CHAO-MING, DIRECTOR OF THE OFFICE OF CUSTOMS ADMINISTRATION, FOR A FULL REPORT ON THE ISSUES RAISED IN REHFELDT'S PETITION AND EMBASSY JULY 23 LETTER AND FOR RECOMMENDED COURSES OF ACTION. GIVEN URGENCY OF SITUATION, HE PROMISED TO DISCUSS MATTER WITH WANG LATER TODAY. WHEN PRESSED AS TO WHEN ACTION MIGHT BE EXPECTED, MINISTER WOULD NOT COMMIT HIMSELF. HE COMMENTED THAT HE DOES NOT HAVE THE AUTHORITY TO RAISE OR LOWER TARIFFS. HE ONLY
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MAKES REPORT WITH RECOMMENDATIONS TO THE EXECUTIVE YUAN (EY). EVEN IF EY ACCEPTS HIS RECOMMENDATIONS, IT IS POSSIBLE THAT FINAL DECISION COULD BE DELAYED WHEN EY SUBMITS DECISION TO LEGISLATIVE YUAN FOR

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REVIEW.

3. EMBASSY IS HOPEFUL THAT DECISION WILL BE REACHED
THIS WEEK. MINISTER IS SEIZED WITH URGENCY OF SITUATION
AND HAS TIME TO PREPARE RECOMMENDATIONS FOR EY MEETING
THURSDAY MORNING, AUGUST 12.
UNGER

STADIS CAPTION DELETED PER MR. ENGLEBRECHT-EA

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<< END OF DOCUMENT >>

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